

Message Text

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72

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-03 AEC-05 EUR-10 PM-03 NEA-06

SPC-01 SAJ-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OMB-01 TRSE-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 L-02 H-01 DRC-01 /081 W

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R 201714Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9407

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T BONN 18298

LIMDIS

SHAPE FOR INTAF: VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM, GW, NATO

SUBJECT: SALT/MBFR: FRG VIEWS

1. ECHOING RECENT PUBLIC COMMENTS OF SECDEF, FRG POLICY MAKERS ARE OBSERVING SALT-TWO NEGOTIATIONS AND ACCOMPANYING SOVIET EFFORTS IN MIRV FIELD WITH PUZZLEMENT AND SOME APPREHENSION. IN FRANKFURT PUBLISHER'S SPEECH REPORTED IN BONN 18241, DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER NOTED THAT INTEGRITY OF STRATEGIC BALANCE EMERGING FROM SALT ONE AGREEMENT WAS PREMISED ON AMERICAN QUALITATIVE ADVANTAGE COUNTERBALANCING CERTAIN QUANTITATIVE ADVANTAGES SANCTIONED FOR MOSCOW. IN THE MEANTIME, ADDED LEBER, "SOVIETS ARE CATCHING UP ON MIRV TECHNO-
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LOGY...THEREBY RENDERING UNCLEAR WHETHER A (SALT-TWO

RESULT) ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES CAN BE ATTAINED."

2. FRG DISARMAMENT COMMISSIONER ROTH TOOK SIMILAR
LINE IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF AND

,
OBSERVED THAT SALT-ONE AGREEMENT
AND MILITARY-TECHNOLOGICAL AFTERMATH HAD BEEN GOOD
ANTIDOTE AGAINST EARLIER GERMAN ENTHUSIASM FOR LIMITED
DURATION AGREEMENTS. ROTH SAID HE WOULD DRAW ON THIS
LESSON IN MBFR AS WELL, INDICATING THAT GERMANS WOULD
REVIEW EARLIER PREFERENCE FOR LIMITED DURATION
TYPE STABILIZING MEASURES.

3. WHILE CONCERNED OVER MIRV AND 1974 SALT-TWO DATELINE,
AMB ROTH TOOK MORE RELAXED VIEW OF FBS QUESTION, SAYING
HE ASSUMED SOVIETS WOULD NOT SIMPLY PERMIT U.S. TO
STONEWALL ON FBS IN SALT-TWO. DESPITE USG FUNDING
BATTLES WITH CONGRESS, ROTH REMAINS HOPEFUL THAT
EXTREME EUROPEAN SENSITIVITY ON FBS, ALSO EVIDENT IN
GERMAN DEFENSE MINISTRY, WOULD TEND TO RECEDE IF AND
WHEN TRIDENT IS DEPLOYED TO THE ATLANTIC, THUS
DIMINISHING THE IMPORTANCE OF U.S. BASES IN SCOTLAND
AND SPAIN. GIVEN THE PERSISTING AND ACUTE EUROPEAN
TOUCHINESS ON FBS, HOWEVER, AND GERMAN WISH TO INTEN-
SIFY EUROPEAN DEFENSE COOPERATION AND CONSULTATIONS,
ROTH SAID HE WOULD SEEK NEXT YEAR TO RESTIMULATE
PETRIGNANI GROUP FORUM.

4. IN CLOSING, ROTH REFERRED TO ANGLO/GERMAN LIST OF
QUESTIONS ON NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF MBFR(BONN 18178) AND.
VOICED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN QUESTION 9 ON THE
POSSIBLE "OVERLAP" BETWEEN MBFR AND SALT. HE WONDERED
HOW WEST SHOULD BEST HANDLE AND/OR SUBDIVIDE "LAYER
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS" WITHIN POTENTIAL COMPASS OF SALT
OR MBFR. HE SAID FRG HAD NO FIXED POSITION ON THE LIST
OF NUCLEAR QUESTIONS AND CONSIDERED PROSPECTIVE JANUARY
VISIT AS OCCASION TO INFORM KEY GERMAN GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS ON CURRENT U.S. VIEWS.

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